WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A recording medium provided with an ink-receiving layer on at least one surface of a substrate, wherein said ink-receiving layer is composed of a porous layer comprising pigment particles and mutually fused thermoplastic resin particles.

2. The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein a porous outermost layer comprising thermoplastic resin particles is provided on the ink-receiving layer.

3. The recording medium according to claim 2, wherein said substrate is card-shaped.

4. The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said pigment particles are composed of alumina hydrate.

5. The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said substrate is composed of a polyvinyl chloride resin.

6. The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said substrate is composed of a polystyrene resin.

7. The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said substrate is composed of a polycarbonate.

8. The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the substrate is composed of a terephthalic acid-ethylene glycol-cyclohexane dimethanol copolymer.

9. An image forming process comprising the step of forming an image by ejecting an ink by an ink-jet recording method onto the recording medium according to claim 1.

10. An image forming process comprising the steps of:

forming an image by discharging ink by an ink-jet recording method onto the recording medium according to claim 2, and

rendering said outermost layer transparent.

11. The image forming process according to claim 9, wherein a coloring material of the ink is a pigment.

12. A process for the preparation of a recording medium comprising the steps of:

applying to a substrate a coating liquid comprising pigment particles and thermoplastic resin particles; and

forming an ink-receiving layer by fusing and adhering the thermoplastic resin with heat under pressure.

13. The process for the preparation of a recording medium according to claim 12 comprising further the step of:

forming an outermost layer, after the ink-receiving layer has been provided.